Circular Letter # 314, May 10, 1908 ?

To Superintendents.

Gentlemen:

Numerous requests are being received in this office from teachers in all parts of the island asking that they be excused from taking the English examinations. Under the present law the Department is not given power to grant such excuses and this should be explained to all teachers making such requests. Allowance will be made, however, in marking the papers of all teachers who for any reason have not enjoyed adequate facilities for studying English this year, and you should assure teachers that they must take the examinations if they desire to have their certificates renewed, they will not have to suffer the results of circumstances which were beyond their centrol.

You are therefore requested to report at once any towns in your district where the teachers have not had regular instruction by American teachers throughout the year and also in each case the number of months in which there have been no lessons for the teachers. If in any of the towns in your district you have excused any individuals from attendance at English classes, kindly notify us of the names of such persons and give a brief statement of your reasons for excusing them.

You should proceed as soon as possible to make arrangements for special examinations for all teachers who for whatever cause failed to take the first examination following the instructions contained in Circular Letter No. 308. After all the papers are marked, a special investigation will be made of the case of each teacher who fails to pass and you will be asked for reports and recommendations.

Respectfully,

Roland P. Falkner

L.PA. KBH 5201